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DEF. DOC. # 2249

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Ex. No.

- I, HASUNUMA, Shieru make oath and say as follows:
- 1. I, HAN NUMA Shigeru, was personalty appointed by the Emperor as Chief: Aide-de-Camp on August 31, 1939, from which post I retired on December 1, 1945 when the Office of Aides-de-Camp to the Emperor was abolished.
- 2. The Office of Aides-de-Camp to the Emperor was an organ under the direct control of his Majesty. The Chief Aide-de-Camp and other daies-de-camp to the Emperor were constantly in attendance on the Emperor and took charge of the following official duties:
 - 1. Reports to the Throne, replyes to Imperial in which and transmission of Imperial orders on military or naval matters.
 - 2. To attend on the Emperor in connection with military or naval reviews, maneuvers, Imperial visits, funeral or memorial services, commonies, banquets, audiences and so forth.
 - 3. To inspect military or naval reviews or other military or naval affairs under Imperial commands and report

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the result of the inspection to the Throne.

A clear demarcation was drawn between handling of andiences with the Emperor or reports to the Throne in connection with political and other general affairs, whereas it was customary that all those, pertaining to military and naval affairs be handled by the Office of Aides-de-Camp to the Emperor. Accordingly, the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal had nothing to do with them. It was the custom with the Minister of War an Navy, Chief of Staff of the Army, Chief of Staff of the Navy and other highranking commanders under direct control of the Emperor (such as the Inspector-General of Military Education, Inspector-General of Aviation, Army Commanders, Commanders-in-. Chief of Fleets and others) to have direct access to the Throne for submitting their own reports. They did not have to get the cousent of the Primier, the Lord Keeper or anyone else in or to have an audience with the Emperor. Sometimes reports on conventional or simple matters were done in documentary form and submitted to the Throne. Especially with regard to the war situation, the General Staffs of the Army and Navy daily communicated with the Office of Aides-de-Camp with documents or by telephone in addition to those directly reported to the Throne by the Chiefs of Staff of the Army and Navy themselves. Therefore, the Chief and other Aides-de-Camp from time submitted the said documents to the Throne and replied to Imperial

inquiries, if any was mad. This was done in performance of their first official duty, above-mentioned. Transmission of Imperial orders included such cases as the Chief Aide-de-Camp conveying Imperial commands to the Supreme War Council when His Majesty wanted to refer some matter to the body so as to seek its views or summoning the Chief of Staff of the Army or the Navy to the Imperial Court in accordance with Imperial orders. The second and third official duties of the Chief and other Aides-de-Camp to the Emperor set forth above are selfexplanatory, according to legal provisions the Chief Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor be chosen either from the Ammy or the Navy, but it was customary that he was chosen from the Army. The regular number of Aides-de-Camp to the Emperor was seven, of which four represented the Army and three, the Navy. The Army and Navy assigned several subordinage officers to the Office of Aides-de-Camp to the Emperor.

- 3. During Marquis KIDO's tenure of office as Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, there was no change of the Chief Adie-de-Camp to the Emperor. I was Chief Aide-de-Camp all the time.
- 4. So far as their status was concerned as Army or Navy offecers in active service, the Chief and other Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor were under the jurisdiction of the Minister of War or of the Navy as other servicemen in general were; but the Office of Aide-de-Camp itself was an organ under direct

Control of the Emperor, belonging neither to the Army nor to the Nawy. Therefore, it was not directed or commanded by the Ministry of War or the Navy or the General Staff of the Army or the Navy. Those Army and Navy institutions and the Office of Aides-de-Camp to the Emperor were independent of each other. As such, their negotiation and liaison were conducted.

- 5. After hostilities opened between Japan and America, the Chief of Staff of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Navy in their capacity of Chief Staff Officers of the Imperial General Headquarters had to have audiences with the Emperor and submit reports to the Throne from time to time. Not only that, the Ministers of the Army and of the Navy and others had also frequent audiences with the Emperor to report to His Majisty on matters under their jurisdiction. In consequence, the Office of Aides-de-Camp had to be in constant touch with the Army and Navy for handling those affairs.
- took charge of the Privy and State Seals as well as affairs pertaining to the Imperial Rescripts and messages, it was the custom with the Army and Navy and other fighting services to go through the prescribed formallties with Office of Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal in case the Privy and State Seals had to be affixed to those Army or Navy do cuments. which obtained Imperial sanction or in case an Imperial Rescript or message

was to be granted by the Emperor to the Army or Navy or other fighting services. But it was not obligatory for the fighting services to keep the Office of Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal informed of the contents of those matters, sanctioned by the Emperor. It was customary, therefore, to keep on file the duplicates of those documents in question on the part of the Office of Aides-de-Camp to the Emperor.

The Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal had no voice in or powers over matters pertaining to the High Command, so that there was no liaison maintained between the Office of bord Keeper of the Privy Seal and the High Command nor did the Office of Aides-de-Camp play an intermediary role for maintaining liaison between the two. In view of the fact that the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal was accused of an infringment of the prerogative High Command under the HAMAGUCHI Cabinet (though the accusation was entirely groundless), I know of my own knowledge that Marquis KIDO during his tenure of office as Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal paid meticulous attention to avoid such an infringement. When an Imperial inquiry, put to Marquis KIDO, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, threatened to fall within the scope of the High Command, he petitioned the Emperor to refer the said matter to the Chief Aide-de-Camp and withdrew from the Imperial presence, especially since he had no knowledge of the matter, asked by the Emperor. I rocall that he on a

member of occasions immediately communicated with me as the Chief Aide-de-Camp about them.

It would appear to a casual observer that there would be no necessity for maintaining liaison between the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal and the Chief Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor who attended to different routine duties; but those who served the Emperor close to him felt called upon to come to a good understanding with each other, by paying colse attention constantly to His Majesty's attitude, health and frame of mind, so as to leave nothing desirable undone in their attendance on him. From this angle, I made it a rule, if it was deemed necessary, to inform the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal of my impression I obtained of the Emperor's condition every morning when I had an audience with His Majesty. And in case the Lord Koeper of the Privy Seal was summoned by the Emperor, I likewise made it point of being in touch with him to get acquatinted with his own impression of His Majesty's condition. I thought it proper to keep those close to the Throne such as the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, Grand Chamberlain and Chamgerlains informed of the developments of the war situation in general. Therefore, I frequently visited the rooms of the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal and Grned Chamberlain to explain the war situation to them personally. Sometimes I sent an aide-de-camp to them for similar purposes. Needless to say, however, that

trend or development of the war situation. I never divulged affairs pertaining to the High Command, which came under the heading up military secrets. Nor did Marquis KIDO, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal tell or consult me about a delicate political tendency or affair with the exception of common sense matters. Foreign Office information, that is, reports from the diplomatic representatives abroad were submitted to the Throne through the Board of Chamberlains. This sort of information was not transmitted to the Emperor through the Office of Aides-de-Camp or the office of the Lord Keeper.

the Emperor, generally he called on the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal at his room before or after the audience or the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal called on him in the ante-room. But when an Army or Navy leader was received in audience by the Emperor, the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal was seldom present at the audience ante-room and rarely did the Army or Navy leader call on the Lord Keeper. This is a point in which the Ministers of the Fighting Services greatly diggered from the other Ministers of State. In the case of General TOJO, however, he was Prime Minister and concurrently War Minister, so that he frequently met the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal in the same way as did other Minister of State.

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I know of no Army or Navy leader who had access to Marquis
KIDO, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, nor was there any
military or naval leader with whom Marquis KIDO was specially
intimate.

When General TOJO emerged as War Minister in succession to General HATA, he enjoyed popularity of young officers who 10. formed the mainstary of the Army. After his assupmtion of the portfolio of War, General TOJO devoted his whold time and energy to the satisfactory performance of his duties, by renovating personnel administration and expediting routine business, so that he steadily extended his influences in Army circles. It cannot be said that there were none in Army circles, who harbored ill feeling toward him, but he had established a firm hold and leadership on the Army when he was commanded by the Emperor to form a succeeding Cabinet. On the night of December 7, I stayed at home. At 6:30 the following morning, I I received a telephonic report from the Aide-de-Camp on duty to the following effect that "our air force attacked Hawaii, thereby opening hostilities with America and that fair war results seemed to have been attained, but detailed information was not available." I told the Aide-de-Camp at duty Capt. Joo to submit the report to the Throne as soon as possible and also communicate it to Marquis KIDO, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal.

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chat with Marquis KIDO, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, on those points, by pacing together information relayed to me on the results of the examination of the American pilots in question. Def. Doc.# 2249

On this 22 day of Feb., 1947
At YAVANOUCHI 653, Ofunacho, Kanagawaken

DEPONENT HASUNUMA, Shigery (seal)

HORUM, Shigetaka hereby certify that the above statement from by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto the presence of this witness.

Of the same date

*itness: (signed) HOZU!I. Shigetaka (seal)

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